

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION EXAMINING OPERATIONS

Applicant: Ferman, et al.

Group Art Unit:

Serial No.:

Examiner:

Filed: Concurrently herewith

Title: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR AUTOMATIC DETECTION OF CONTINUOUS-TONE REGIONS IN DOCUMENT IMAGES

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH 37 CFR §1.98

Chernoff Vilhauer McClung & Stenzel, LLP
1600 ODS Tower
601 S W Second Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97204-3157

January 28, 2004

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents

Dear Sir:

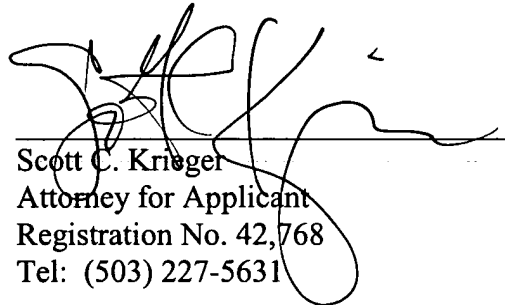
Applicants submit herewith a list of the publications of which they are aware and which they desire to have considered by the Patent Office in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(b)(3), this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application.

In accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement will not be regarded as an admission that any patent or publication or combination of patents referred to herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability under 37 CFR §1.56(b) unless specifically designated as such.

A list of the publications is enclosed herewith on the attached page of Form PTO-1449 (Modified). Applicant would respectfully request that the Examiner initial this form where indicated, and return an acknowledgment copy to the applicant to confirm that the listed references were received and considered.

The person making this statement is the attorney who signs below on the basis of the information supplied by the inventor and the information in his file.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott C. Krieger
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 42,768
Tel: (503) 227-5631

FORM PTO-1449 (Modified)	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 7146.0186	SERIAL NO.
	APPLICANT: Ferman, et al.	
	FILING DATE Concurrently herewith	GROUP

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

	AA	5,177,795	Jan. 5, 1993	Tanioka, et al.			
	AB	4,998,122	Mar. 5, 1991	Kanno, et al.			
	AC	5,202,933	Apr. 13, 1993	Bloomberg			
	AD	5,121,224	June 9, 1992	Ng, et al.			
	AE	5,278,919	Jan. 11, 1994	Sugiura, et al.			
	AF	5,883,973	Mar. 16, 1999	Pascovici, et al.			
	AG	5,280,367	Jan. 18, 1994	Zuniga			
	AH	5,369,507	Nov. 29, 1994	Tanaka, et al.			
	AI	5,546,474	Aug. 13, 1996	Zuniga			
	AJ	5,555,556	Sept. 10, 1996	Ozaki			
	AK	5,892,843	Apr. 6, 1999	Zhou, et al.			
	AL	5,587,808	Dec. 24, 1996	Hagihara, et al.			
	AM	5,767,978	June 16, 1998	Revankar, et al.			
	AN	5,778,092	July 7, 1998	MacLeod, et al.			
	AO	5,812,695	Sept. 22, 1998	Dawe			
	AP	6,181,829	Jan. 30, 2001	Clark, et al.			
	AQ	6,185,328	Feb. 6, 2001	Shiau			
	AR	6,295,371	Sept. 25, 2001	Rucklidge, et al.			
	AS	6,229,923	May 8, 2001	Williams, et al.			
	AT	6,301,386	Oct. 9, 2001	Zhu, et al.			
	AU	6,347,153	Feb. 12, 2002	Triplett, et al.			
	AV	6,393,150	May 21, 2002	Lee, et al.			
	AW	6,411,735	June 25, 2002	Williams, et al.			
	AX	6,424,742	July 23, 2002	Yamamoto, et al.			
	AY	6,437,881	Aug. 20, 2002	Baba, et al.			
	AZ	6,507,670	Jan. 14, 2003	Moed			
	AAA	US20020006220	Jan. 17, 2002	Kohchi, Tsukasa			
	AAB	US20020076107	June 20, 2002	Loce, Robert P.; et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	BA							
	BB							

OTHER ART

	CA	
	CB	
	CC	
	CD	
	CE	
	CF	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

Information Disclosure Statement

Q:\diane\SCK\Sharp\0186\IDS master reformatted.wpd
January 28, 2004 (11:26AM)